UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TAMPA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

	Case No. 8:03-CR-77-T-30TBM
V.	
SAMI AMIN AL-ARIAN, et al.,	
Defendants.	

MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

COMES NOW, the Accused, SAMI AMIN AL-ARIAN, by and through undersigned counsel, and, pursuant to Local Rule 3.09, respectfully moves this Honorable Court for the entry of an Order continuing the scheduled jury trial date from the April, 2006, trial term (Doc. 1528) to the trial term in August, 2006. Counsel also requests a continuance for the scheduled three-day hearing on the challenges to proposed juror questionnaires (Doc. 1499) from March 21-23, 2006 to a date to be determined by this Honorable Court. In support of the foregoing, counsel state as follows:

1. Counsel's Motions to Withdraw (Docs. S 31, S-32) are pending before Magistrate McCoun. We have made diligent efforts to have hearings in this matter but there has been no ruling yet filed. In anticipation that these motions will be granted, new counsel would need time to get prepared for the retrial of Dr. Al-Arian. There are nine outstanding mistried charges that would require a substantial amount of work for trial preparation.

2. New counsel would also need time to prepare for the jury selection process

and may have their own objections to the proposed questionnaires.

3. Dr. Al-Arian has been fully informed of his constitutional right to a speedy

trial, agrees that a continuance is appropriate, and as such is willing to waive

his speedy trial rights.

4. Counsel has conferred with the Federal Public Defender, on behalf of Hatim

Fariz, and they have no objection to this request for a continuance.

5. Counsel has conferred with the United States Attorney and they have no

objection to this request for a continuance.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, we respectfully request that the Court

continue the previously scheduled jury trial calendar date of April, 2006 to the August,

2006 jury trial calendar; further, we respectfully request that the Court continue the

hearings on the challenges to proposed juror questionnaires to a date to be determined by

this Honorable Court.

Dated: 1 March 2006

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Linda Moreno

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